

## OUR OPINION

*Freeport  
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# The manufacturing economy

**The issue:** Reversing job losses  
**Our view:** Government should end  
incentives to move jobs overseas

**T**he efforts by area politicians to address the stunning loss of manufacturing jobs – good-paying jobs vital to Northwest Illinois – to overseas operations should be supported. According to information from U.S. Rep. Don Manzullo's office, the U.S. manufacturing sector has endured a 42-month assault on its payrolls, with nearly 3 million Americans losing jobs.

Last month, Rep. Jim Sacia joined Manzullo to address the issue before the Freeport Area Chamber of Commerce. Manzullo detailed a plan to help restore jobs to the region: End tax policies that encourage companies to move jobs overseas; require federal agencies to buy American; end foreign government currency manipulation, and more.

Manzullo and Sacia are right to speak out against forces that have decimated the region's job base. President Bush, and Washington, would be wise to listen.